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24 MR. WILLIAM: I'm Jim Williams. I've worked with
25 SEP 30 1999 Nye County for several years now on socioeconomic,

1 transportation, financial issues related to the Yucca Mountain
2 project.

3 I have a few preliminary comments on
4 socioeconomics, which is basically community characteristics
5 and transportation in the EIS.

1...

6 Our basic preliminary comments on the
7 socioeconomics are that the EIS does not sufficiently deal
8 with -- sort of reflect ground truth in Nye County communities
9 as they have evolved in the last few years in the 1990s.

10 It doesn't include a adequate reflection of what
11 Nye County communities, especially southern Nye communities,
12 are -- could become over the period of the -- the long period
13 of time of this project, and it does not address some of the
14 actions of the Commission and other agencies regarding land
15 development and activities of Nye County.

16 A few quick examples. On page 37 -- 371, 317 --
17 I think it's 3-17 of the EIS, it says that Nye County had a
18 population of 26,000 in 1997, and it also says that no
19 community level population estimates were available for 1991 or
20 1995.

21 Nye County has prepared community level
22 population estimates since before the 1990 census on a
23 quarterly basis using a consistent method with methods fully
24 explained and with results fully distributed since or before
25 the 1990 census and people in Pahrump think our estimates are

1 conservative.

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2 But our estim -- estimate for 1997 is 31 --
3 31,000, not 26,000, and our estimates for today are in the
4 37,000 area.

5 The point is that the EIS assumes that Yucca
6 Mountain is going to be imposed on basically a static
7 community, not one that is changed as much as this one has.

8 Another quick example is that all the radiation
9 exposure estimates in the AI -- EIS assume that there will be
10 28,000 people within fifty miles of the -- of the repository.
11 That includes all of Pahrump.

12 Nye County has published population projections
13 that say that by 2010, which is when this project is scheduled
14 to go operational, there will be at least 47,100 population
15 within fifty miles and in Nye County.

16 That doesn't include California, that doesn't
17 include Indian Springs, within fifty miles, and that estimate
18 it says in the projection doesn't include some of the economic
19 development matters. It doesn't include some of the
20 extraordinary subdivision developments in Pahrump.

21 Since 1992, when nuclear weapons testing was
22 stopped at the Nevada Test Site, the DOE Nevada has sought out
23 to think through new kinds of missions for the test site, and
24 Nye County has made a considerable effort sort of reflecting
25 that to develop ideas of economic development for the US 95

1 corridor, Indians Springs all the way up to Tonopah.

2 These are ambitious, they are innovative and they
3 reflect a vision for Nye County's future that should not just
4 be done for nuclear weapons testing, low-level radioactive test

5 and high-level radioactive waste.

6 And so the use of the 28,000 estimate reflects a
7 notion that the -- that this is being imposed on a community
8 that is static at a level that was passed back in 1995.

9 On transportation --

10 MR. BROWN: Five minutes. Time is up. If you
11 can just conclude your statement.

12 UNIDENTIFIED AUDIENCE PARTICIPANT: Keep
13 talking.

14 MR. BROWN: I'm just letting you know the time.

15 MR. WILLIAM: On transportation -- I'm sorry. I
16 went on too long.

17 On transportation, the basic concerns that we
18 have are not dissimilar to the ones that we -- in the
19 socioeconomics.

20 One, it doesn't consider and directly reflect the
21 actions of the Nye County Commission with regard to
22 transportation.

2 23 The Nye County Commission after -- I know some
24 real discussion, said that there should be -- there will be no
25 heavy haul of high-level waste into Nye County and down the US
1 95 corridor.

3 2 The Commission has also said that the only
3 possible heavy haul route and the preferable -- preferable rail
4 route is one that avoids Nye County communities and comes
5 across the Test Site.

6 The EIS says that that is not the preferred
7 alternative and the reason why is because there's a problem

8 within the federal family. Air Force doesn't want it, and so
9 it's not preferred.

10 How about the communities that will be affected
11 by -- by that decision?

4 12 Another problem on the -- on transportation side
13 is the decision process that's described there. It says that
14 the transportation decisions for high level waste will be made
15 if and when they're made by a set of regional service
16 contractors, private agencies, and at the same time
17 transportation decisions for low level waste coming into NTS
18 will be made by twenty-five generators at various places in the
19 country and their carriers.

20 The result I fear is that the transportation
21 process makes likely the less acceptable alternatives in this
22 community for transportation and it makes extremely unlikely
23 the all -- alternatives for transportation that might be
24 preferred.

5 25 Another quick comment on -- on transportation is
1 that it simply just does not provide a -- a description of the
2 kind of transportation system that DOE would commit to to
3 protect the -- the site community where this entire inventory
4 is being shipped to.